

thanks for giving us such a generous supply of plates that are on the whole so excellent.

The volume ends with an annotated 'List of the Birds of Pennsylvania' covering twenty-one pages and including 310 species, affording opportunity to briefly treat the species omitted from the body of the work. It is "based chiefly on observations made during the past ten years in Eastern Pennsylvania, especially in the Counties of Chester, Delaware and Lancaster," but it is in part compiled from manuscript notes of John Krider and H. B. Graves, the published writings of Ridgway, Coles, Gentry, Turnbull, Baird, Michener, Barnard and Pennock, and information received from Mr. Geo. B. Sennett. Some forty or fifty names are entered without annotations, though most of these have been already discussed in the previous pages. The list contains some new and interesting records and occasionally a statement that would interest one much more if supported by a detailed account of the facts or a citation of the authority.

The 'Report' was printed by direction of the Legislature of Pennsylvania for gratuitous distribution in the State, and the demand so far exceeded the supply that the edition of 6000 copies was quickly exhausted and, we are very glad to learn, the publication of a second edition of 10,000 copies, revised and enlarged, has been ordered. When this book has found its way into the schools and farmhouses throughout Pennsylvania the profit to the birds, to the farmers, and to ornithology, that ought to result, is incalculable. If other States would but follow such a good example, it would be an important step toward lifting the cloud of ignorance that hangs over the rural mind upon matters of natural history.—C. F. B.

**Ridgway on New or Little-known American Birds.**—In the 'Proceedings' of the U. S. National Museum and Boston Society of Natural History, Mr. Ridgway has recently published various papers on American birds, in the main relating to Mexican and South American species, as follows: (1) 'Remarks on *Catharus berlepschi* Lawr.\* indorsing the species and giving its synonymy. (2) 'Descriptions of some new Species and Subspecies of Birds from Middle America.'† These are *Catharus fumosus* from Costa Rica and Veragua (allied to *C. mexicanus* Bon.); *Mimus gracilis leucophæus*, from Cozumel; *Harporhynchus longirostris sennetti*, from Southern Texas, the larger, duller, more grayish Texan race being considered as subspecifically separable from the true *longirostris* of Mexico; *Campylorhynchus castaneus* from Guatemala and Honduras, hitherto referred to *C. capistratus*, which it much resembles; *Thryothorus rufalbus castanonotus* from "Nicaragua to Colombia"; *Microcerculus daulias*, from Costa Rica, and related to *M. philomela* Scl.; *Dendroornis lawrencei*, from Panama, and a subspecies *costaricensis* of this last, from Costa Rica. (3) 'Note on the Generic name *Uropsila* Scl. & Salv.,'‡ which

\* Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1887, p. 504. (Aug. 6, 1888.)

† Ibid., pp. 505-510. (Aug. 6, 1888.)

‡ Ibid., p. 511. (Aug. 6, 1888.)

proves to be preoccupied and *Hemiura* is proposed in its place, with the same type.

(4) 'Descriptions of new Species and Genera of Birds from the Lower Amazon,'\* collected by Mr. C. B. Riker near Santarem during June and July, 1887. These number three genera and fifteen species, besides one from Guiana, described in a footnote. They are *Thryothorus herberti* Riker MS., *T. oyapocensis* (from Guiana), *Thryophilus tænioptera*, *Cyphorhinus griseolateralis*, *Colopteryx* (gen. nov., = *Colopterus* Cab., preoccupied) *inornatus*, *Ornithion napæum*, *Tyrannulus reguloides*, *Attila viridescens*, *Thamnophilus inornatus*, "*Heterocnemis* (?) *hypoleuca* sp. nov.?" *Dichrozona* (gen. nov.) *zononota*, *Phlogopsis bowmani* Riker MS., *Rhegmatorhina* (gen. nov.) *gymnops*, *Dendrorhina fraterculus*, *Dendrocolaptes obsoletus*, and *Zenaida jessiae* Riker MS. These, with three other species elsewhere described by Mr. Ridgway, formed indeed a rich harvest from a field by no means new.

(5) 'A Review of the Genus *Psittacula* of Brisson.'† This is an important monographic revision of the genus, giving full descriptions and the bibliography of the species, eleven in number, of which three species (*Psittacula insularis*, Tres Marias Islands; *P. exquisita*, Cartagena, Colombia; *P. deliciosa*, Santarem) and one subspecies (*P. passerina vivida* Bahia) are characterized as new.

(6) 'Catalogue of a collection of Birds made by Mr. Chas. H. Townsend on Islands in the Caribbean Sea and in Honduras.'‡ Thirteen species are recorded from Grand Cayman (including *Columbigullina passerina insularis* Towns., MS., subs. nov.); thirty from Swan Island (including *Contopus vicinus* and *Butorides saturatus*, spp. nov.); three from Ruatan Island; fifty-six from Truxillo, Honduras (*Thamnophilus intermedius*, *Centurus santacruzi pauper*, and *Eugyptila vinaceiventris* are characterized as new); and ninety-nine from Segovia River, Honduras, of which the following are regarded as new: *Pitylus poliogaster scapularis*, *Sturnella magna inexpectata*, *Thalurania townsendi*, *Colinus nigrogularis segoviensis*, *Porzana exilis vagans* and *Tigrisoma excellens*.

(7) 'Description of a new *Psaltriparus* from Southern Arizona.'§ This is *Psaltriparus santarite*, similar to *P. plumbeus*, but smaller, with the sides of the head paler, etc., from the Santa Rita Mountains, Arizona.

(8) 'Notes on some Type-specimens of American Troglodytidae in the Lafresnaye Collection.'|| This paper treats of the types of ten Lafresnaye species of the genus *Campylorhynchus*, four of *Thryothorus*, and one of *Troglodytes*. *C. brevirostris* is described as new "ex. Lafr., MS." Baird's "*Thryophilus rufalbus*, var. *poliopleura*" proves to be a "pure synonym" of *Thryothorus rufalbus* Lafr., while *Troglodytes brunnei-collis* Scl. proves to be identical with *T. tecellata* Lafr. & d'Orb. A

\* Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., pp. 516-528. (Aug. 6, 1888.)

† Ibid., pp. 520-548. (Aug. 6, 1888.)

‡ Ibid., pp. 572-597. (Aug. 6 to Sept. 19, 1888.)

§ Ibid., p. 697. (Oct. 12, 1888.)

|| Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., Vol. XXIII, pp. 383-388. (March, 1888.)

number of the names borne by the types seem never to have been published.—J. A. A.

**Bendire on the Nests and Eggs of Rare Species of North American Birds.**—In the 'Proceedings' of the U. S. National Museum, Captain C. E. Bendire has recently published two papers on the nest and eggs of several little known species of North American birds. The first treats of the California Black-capped Gnatcatcher,\* describing its nest and eggs found by Mr. F. Stephens at San Bernardino, Cal. — the first thus far described. The second paper† describes the nests and eggs of several species, collected by Lieut. Harry C. Benson near Fort Huachuca, Southern Arizona. These are the Band-tailed Pigeon (*Columba fasciata*), the Zone-tailed Hawk (*Buteo abbreviatus*), the Aplomado Falcon (*Falco fusco-cærulescens*), Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), the Arizona Jay (*Aphelocoma sieberii arizonæ*), the White-necked Raven (*Corvus cryptoleucus*), Stephens's Vireo (*Vireo huttoni stephensi*), and the Lead-colored Bush-tit (*Psaltriparus plumbeus*).—J. A. A.

**Lawrence on a New Species of American Bird.**—In the 'Proceedings' of the U. S. National Museum Mr. George N. Lawrence has described‡ a new species of *Catharus* (*C. berlepschi*), from Ecuador, allied to *C. fuscater*.—J. A. A.

**Stejneger on the Japanese Creepers.**—Dr. Stejneger, in his 'Review of Japanese Birds,' has recently discussed the Creepers of the genus *Certhia*,§ of which he recognizes two forms, *C. familiaris* and *C. f. scandulaca*, which he treats at length with his usual discrimination and thoroughness.

Dr. Stejneger has also published a paper on the type specimen of *Galinula eurizonoides* Lafr.,|| described as from "l'Inde," but which Dr. Stejneger thinks it pretty safe to assume came from the Philippine Archipelago. Its near Indian ally is accordingly named *Euryzona eurizonoides amauroptera* (Blyth).—J. A. A.

**Beckham on the Birds of Southwestern Texas.**¶—In a posthumous paper of over sixty pages the late Mr. Beckham has recorded his observations on the birds observed by him during December, 1886, and January,

\*Description of the Nest and Eggs of the California Black-capped Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila californica* Brewster). Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1887, pp. 549-550.

†Notes on a Collection of Birds' Nests and Eggs from Southern Arizona Territory. Ibid., pp. 551-558.

‡Description of a New Species of Bird of the genus *Catharus*, from Ecuador. Ibid., 1887, 503. (Aug. 6, 1888.)

§Review of Japanese Birds. VII.—The Creepers. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1887, pp. 606-611. (Sept. 19, 1888.)

||On the Type-specimen of *Euryzona eurizonoides* (Lafr.). Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist. Vol. XXIII, pp. 461-464. (May, 1888.)

¶Observations on the Birds of Southwestern Texas. By Charles Wickliffe Beckham. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1887, pp. 633-696. (Sept. 19, 1888.)